

Despite a cold and rainy evening approximately 80 people attended the second greenways workshop at Leestown Middle School December 11, 2000. The students of St. Peter and St. Paul were out in force once again to direct the attendees to the appropriate parking.

The goal of this workshop was to evaluate the maps that were generated from the first workshop and to determine the issues and functions of greenways that are important to our community and to rank them by priority.

Those in attendance worked in small groups reviewing and editing composite maps prepared by the consultant team of Chuck Flink (Greenways Incorporated), Fuller, Mossbarger, Scott and May and Morgan McIlwain and Associates. The composite maps were based on input received at the first GWMP workshop that was held at Central Library on October 30. After working with the groups, an informal poll was conducted to determine what issues and functions are important to the citizens of Fayette County. The number one issue was the ability to access local businesses, schools and parks and the number one function was the ability to walk/bike to work, school or shopping. Habitat protection and quality of life were second respectively.

After an hour and a half of discussion, each group presented their concerns and issues to everyone. Attendees also filled out questions and comment forms, which will help in developing the plan.

The work maps from the two public workshop as well as comments and recommendations from the Greenspace Commission and LFUCG staff will be merged into preliminary maps that will be presented at the third and final public workshop which will be held on Monday, January 29, 2001 at the Veterans Park Elementary School on Clearwater Way.

A lot of man-hours have gone into developing a Master Plan for Fayette County's greenways. At each public workshop the question is always asked is where are our greenways and how can we protect them.

The Greenway Coordinating Committee and the Consultant team have also been meeting with other special interest groups. Representatives from the Board of Realtors, Lexington Home Builders, and the Mayor's Economic

Development Office met with Chuck Flink to discuss issues that were important to them and another gathering was held with members of the Sierra Club, Bluegrass Cycling Club, Greenspace Commission, Land and Nature Trust and environmental advocates to discuss their needs.

LFUCG staff is continuing to work with the consultants to process, edit and review citizen comments, maps and the beginning text of the Greenway Master Plan. Check out our web site at www.lfucg.com/greenways for more information on Greenways. **The staff would be glad to speak to any groups or neighborhood associations interested in hearing more about Greenways and how they can help our community in so many ways.** Please contact Keith Lovan (klovan@lfucg.com, 258-3487) or Doug Greene (dougg@lfucg.com, 258-3267) for more information or to arrange a speaking engagement.